

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 072014  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

DRAFTED BY D-WCHRISTOPHER:EDH  
APPROVED BY D - THE DEPUTY SECRETARY  
S/S-O:JTHYDEN

-----066770 210208Z /65

Z O 210158Z MAR 78 ZFF6  
FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY PANAMA FLASH  
INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 072014

NODIS  
FOR THE AMBASSADOR FROM DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PN

SUBJECT: LETTER TO GENERAL TORRIJOS

PLEASE DELIVER THE FOLLOWING LETTER TO GENERAL TORRIJOS  
FROM PRESIDENT CARTER AT THE OPENING OF BUSINESS TOMORROW:

BEGIN TEXT:

"MY DEAR GENERAL:

I APPRECIATED YOUR EXCELLENT LETTER OF MARCH 15, AS WELL  
AS OUR OPPORTUNITY TO CONVERSE ON THE TELEPHONE ON THAT  
SAME DAY. YOUR STATEMENT THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF PANAMA  
WILL NOT TAKE ANY ACTION UNTIL THE SENATE HAS ACTED ON  
BOTH TREATIES IS A WISE AND PRUDENT COURSE. THE SAME  
CALM AND THOUGHTFUL APPROACH WAS ALSO REFLECTED IN THE  
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OFFICIAL COMMUNIQUE ISSUED BY YOUR GOVERNMENT AFTER  
THE SENATE VOTE.

THE SENATE HAS NOW COMMENCED DEBATE ON THE PANAMA CANAL  
TREATY. ONCE AGAIN, WE WILL URGE THE SENATE TO  
RESIST ANY AMENDMENTS TO THE BODY OF THE TREATY AS  
WELL AS ANY RESERVATIONS OR CONDITIONS WHICH ARE

INCONSISTENT WITH THE BASIC PURPOSES  
AND SPIRIT OF THE TREATY. TWO SUCH AMENDMENTS WERE  
DEFEATED TODAY.

THE SENATE LEADERSHIP IS ENDEAVORING TO ESTABLISH A DATE  
CERTAIN FOR THE FINAL VOTE ON THE TREATY. WE HOPE THERE  
WILL BE AN AGREEMENT REACHED THIS WEEK FOR A FINAL VOTE  
TO BE TAKEN BY THE SECOND WEEK OF APRIL.

UNTIL THE DEBATE IS CONCLUDED, IT WILL BE IMPORTANT  
FOR US TO FOLLOW YOUR WISE COUNSEL TO BE CALM AND TO  
WITHHOLD JUDGMENT UNTIL THE TREATIES CAN BE CONSIDERED  
IN THEIR ENTIRETY. AS I SAID AFTER THE SENATE ACTED  
ON THE FIRST TREATY, YOU AND THE PANAMANIAN PEOPLE  
HAVE BEEN PATIENT AND FOREBEARING DURING THIS LONG  
PROCESS, AND YOU HAVE EARNED THE CONFIDENCE AND  
RESPECT OF ALL OF US HERE.

SINCERELY,

JIMMY CARTER"

END TEXT.

FYI. THE PRESIDENT IS AGREEABLE TO TALKING WITH  
GENERAL TORRIJOS TOMORROW. HE WILL CALL AT 9:30 A.M. VANCE  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXT, AGREEMENTS, DIPLOMATIC COMMUNICATIONS, CANALS, CAT-B  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 21 mar 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Enclosure:** FOR THE AMB FROM DEPUTY SECRETARY CHRISTOPHER  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
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**Subject:** LETTER TO GENERAL TORRIJOS  
**TAGS:** PEPR, PPDC, PFOR, PM, US, PN, (CARTER, JIMMY), (TORRIJOS HERRERA, OMAR)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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